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Remarks

Claims 1-12 are pending. No claims have been amended, added, or canceled by way of this Amendment. Amendment of the specification is requested as indicated. No new matter has been added.

Election of Species

A first and a second election of species have been required by the Office. With regard to the first election, the Office has required election of a single disclosed species compound of formula I or Ia. Applicants elect the compound of example 3, as disclosed on page 33 of the specification. Claims 1-12 are readable upon the first elected species.

With regard to the second election, the Office has required election of a condition mediated by the activity of cannabinoid 2 receptors. Applicants elect the condition of pain. Claims 9-12 are readable upon the second elected species.

It is unclear if further restriction is required by the Office Action. For each election, the Office Action states that the species do not relate to a single general inventive concept. Conversely, the Office Action describes the claims as directed to more than one species of "the generic invention". Applicants believe that the Office Action conveys that Unity of Invention is present, but that election of species is required for searching purposes. If Applicants have misinterpreted the Office Action, then Applicants respectfully request clarification.

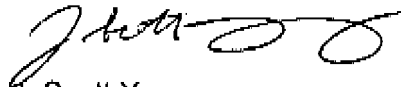
Conclusion

Applicants believe that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper other than those specifically authorized herewith. However, should any other

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fees be deemed necessary to effect the timely filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1392. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (919) 483-8160, to discuss this case, if desired.

Respectfully submitted,



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